

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	EAS.55
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Nickerson, Reuben House
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	120 Bridge Rd
<b>City/Town:</b>	Eastham
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	
<b>Local No:</b>	20-059
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	c 1830
<b>Architect(s):</b>	
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Greek Revival
<b>Use(s):</b>	Single Family Dwelling House
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture
<b>Area(s):</b>	EAS.J: Bridge - Dyer Prince Roads Area
<b>Designation(s):</b>	
<b>Building Materials(s):</b>	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood Clapboard; Wood Foundation: Brick



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

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FORM B - BUILDING

EAS.55

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Building  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Assessor's  
Number

20/059

USGS Quad

Orleans

Area(s)

5

Form Number

55

Town

Eastham

(neighborhood or village)

120 Bridge Road

ic Name

Present Residential

Original "

f Construction c. 1830

See Bibliography\*

Form Greek Revival

ect/Builder

or Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Clapboard

Roof Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage

Major Alterations (with dates)

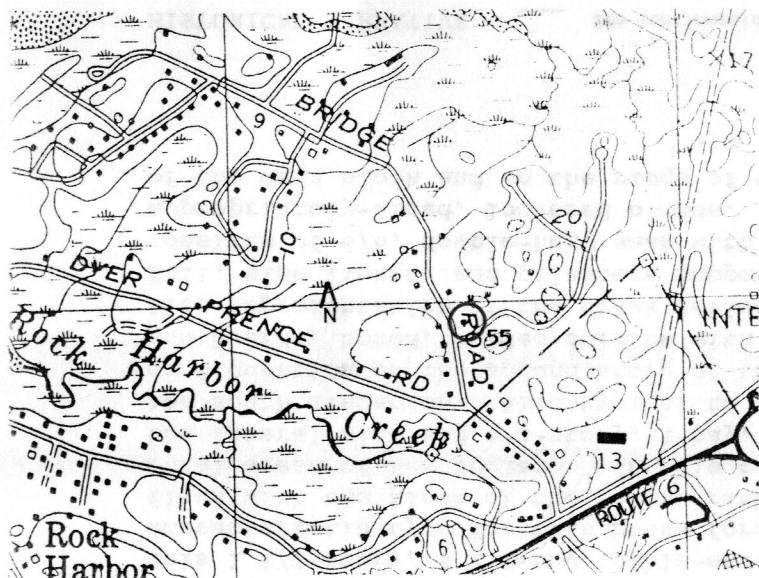
Condition Good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage .51 Acres

Setting Located in a moderately-settled, rural area near the intersection of Dyer Prince Road.

here. Indicate North.



Recorded by: Dianne L. Siergiej  
and Sanford Johnson  
Organization: Commonweal Collaborative

Date: August 1995

RECEIVED

SEP 20 1995

MASS. HIST. COMM.

## BUILDING FORM

120 Bridge Road

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION        See continuation sheet.

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

This 1 1/2-story, 3 x 2-bay, gable-end, dwelling with lateral wing is the characteristic type for this house form in Eastham. The side ell is aligned flush with the plane of the facade rather than set back as is typical in many rural areas of New England. In this case, another ell extends to the rear of the lateral wing and a 1-story, 1-bay, gable-roofed addition is attached to the south elevation. Also typical to Eastham is the 3-bay, window configuration on the second story of the facade. Other detail consists of end boards, boxed, molded cornice with returns and 2-part frieze. Also representative of the Greek Revival is the trabeated, main entry with full, side lights, and pilasters supporting an entablature. Fenestration consists of 6/6, double-hung sash with plain trim and a number of appropriately-sized, louvered blinds. Chimneys are located on the ridge line of the main block and on the ridge of the lateral wing.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE        See continuation sheet.

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

The Rogers map of 1795 and the Hales map of 1831 indicate Bridge Road was probably laid out during the Federal Period. The reconnaissance report of the Massachusetts Historical Commission describes the road as a local loop off King's Highway. The second meetinghouse was built in the area by 1720 and a school was built in 1762. By 1831, there were salt works, several residences and a shallow canal from the Boat Meadow River to Town Cove near the southern end of Bridge Road. The road was extended north in 1837 when a bridge was constructed over the Boat Meadow River, and accorded a name to the route. Agriculture played an important role in the development of Eastham from the Colonial Period through the Early Modern Period.

The house at 120 Bridge Road may have been built by 1831 as a building appears near the site on the Hales map of that year. Although the house is Greek Revival in style, deed research completed in 1992 by Nancy Heller of the Eastham Historical Society traces the chain of title only through 1895 and appears to leave previous ownership unresolved. Further deed research is necessary to clarify original ownership.

On the 1858 map of Eastham, this property is ascribed to R. Nickerson as is 20 Bridge Road (see Form No. 53) which belonged to Reuben Nickerson. In 1880, this property is attributed to S. Smith and by 1901, Wilbur G. Smith, a carpenter, was the owner. Wilbur Smith transferred the property in 1914 to his wife, Mary Smith who in turn consigned it to their daughter, Edith M. Smith, in 1935. The latter retained the holding until 1962.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES   X   See continuation sheet.

  X   Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places;  
If checked, see attached National Register Criteria Statement form.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (continued)

\*Hales, John G. Map of the Town of Eastham, 1830.

\*House File: 120 Bridge Road, Eastham Historical Society Archives.

Resident and Business Directory of Cape Cod, 1901.

Roger, Josiah, Knowles, Elijah and Kinsman, Simeon. Map of the Town of Eastham, 1794.

Walker, George F. Atlas of Barnstable County. Boston: George F. Walker & Co., 1880.

\_\_\_\_\_. Atlas of Barnstable County. Boston Walker Lithographer and Publishing Co., 1908.

\*Wallings, Henry F. Map of Eastham. Boston: D. R. Smith Co., 1858.





Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Building  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Community: Eastham  
Property Address: 120 Bridge Road

EAS.55

Area Form No. 55

### National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement

Check all that apply:

☒ Individually eligible ☐ Eligible only in a historic district  
☐ Contributing to a potential historic district ☐ Potential historic district

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Statement of Significance by: Dianne L. Siergiej  
*The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.*

The property at 120 Bridge Road is significant on a local level with regard to the above-referenced criteria as one of the best preserved local examples of the gable-end, side-entry house form with flush-plane, lateral wing.

Original yellow form: Eligibility file \_\_\_\_\_  
Copies: Inventory form ☒ \_\_\_\_\_  
Town file(w/corresp.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Macris \_\_\_\_\_  
NR director \_\_\_\_\_

EAS.55

Community: Eastham

**MHC OPINION: ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL REGISTER**

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Due: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Reviewed: 12/6/95  
Type: ☒ Individual \_\_\_\_\_ District (Attach map indicating boundaries)  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Inventory Form: EAS.55  
Address: 120 Bridge Road  
Requested by: LHC  
Action: ☒ Honor \_\_\_\_\_ ITC \_\_\_\_\_ Grant \_\_\_\_\_ R & C \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Staff in charge of Review: BF

**INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES**

☒ Eligible  
\_\_\_\_\_ Eligible, also in district  
\_\_\_\_\_ Eligible only in district  
\_\_\_\_\_ Ineligible  
\_\_\_\_\_ More information needed

**DISTRICTS**

\_\_\_\_\_ Eligible  
\_\_\_\_\_ Ineligible  
\_\_\_\_\_ More information needed

CRITERIA: \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ B ☒ C \_\_\_\_\_ D  
LEVEL: ☒ Local \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ National

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE by Michael Steinitz

**120 Bridge Road** is eligible individually for listing on the National Register under criterion C as a well-preserved example of a locally popular, Gable-front-with-wing, Greek Revival residential building form. Additional information on the buildings historical associations to residents prior to the Smith family in the 1880s, and on the role that the Smith family played in local history would be necessary to establish eligibility under criterion A. **120 Bridge Road** may also be eligible as part of a larger National Register district along Bridge Road. More information in the form of an MHC Area Form for Bridge Road would be necessary for MHC to evaluate the eligibility potential of this area.